

great leader. I also knew that we would be losing a great man, and I knew I would be losing a friend. I learned something every time I met with him, and I appreciated his thoughtful insights on the many threats our country faces. His clear-eyed, straightforward, and honest advice to the Senate Armed Services Committee directly led to stronger, safer policies to protect our Nation being signed into law.

After over 40 years of exemplary service, Admiral Richard's retirement is well-earned. I wish him and Lisa the very best, and I thank him on behalf of myself and the people of Nebraska for his dedication and service to our country.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO AL JAEGER

• Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, I want to honor the 30 years of distinguished service of a remarkable North Dakota public servant who is retiring from office at the end of December.

Alvin Jaeger took office as North Dakota's 14th secretary of state in January 1993, when I was the executive director of the North Dakota Republican Party. That year, he and newly elected Governor Ed Schafer became the second and third Republicans to be voted in to a State office after several years of Democrats occupying them. Today, all State office holders are Republicans, the significance of which is not lost on neither Al nor me.

A Beulah, ND, native, Al came to the Secretary of State's office having previously served in the North Dakota National Army Guard and having been a business analyst for the Mobil Oil Corporation, a Fargo real estate broker, and a high school teacher in western North Dakota.

In his 30 years in office, Al has brought wisdom, intelligence, and dedication to everything he has undertaken. He has served on the State Board of University and School Lands, the North Dakota Emergency Commission, and the State Historical Society of North Dakota, making his participation in the work of these boards a top priority. Al has also been active in the National Association of Secretaries of State and most recently was a member of its executive committee.

When first elected, Al oversaw the development of the office's first website and subsequently supervised the ever evolving modernization and digitization of services and information that we now expect to be found online. He led in updating North Dakota's election code and developing more sophisticated tracking of election results. He has become the "go-to" authority on issues related to election security and uniform voter identification. And he and his staff have set a high standard for election integrity in North Dakota not enjoyed by many other States.

One of the projects Al championed and which will be among the greatest legacies of his years in office is the North Dakota Blue Book. This publication traces back to the Territorial Legislature in 1887, 2 years before North Dakota became a State, with early titles more commonly referred to as "legislative manuals or handbooks." They were put out sporadically until Al came to office in 1993, when he committed to resuming a biannual publication of the book. Over these past 30 years, each book has provided a comprehensive chronology of all current and State office holders, a summary of significant laws passed during that biennium's legislative session, as well as historical features and data about the State. With each edition providing information about North Dakota not readily available elsewhere, the value of the commitment by the Secretary of State's office to regularly publish these books cannot be overstated.

When Al Jaeger retires on December 31, he will become the second longest serving secretary of state in North Dakota, overseeing and codifying the laws of 15 legislative sessions. It is going to take a long time for the impact of his years of service to be adequately measured. On behalf of all North Dakotans, I thank him for his years of service as secretary of state. I congratulate him on his well-earned retirement and wish him many years of health and happiness in the future.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 4017. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 111 South Highland Avenue in Jackson, Tennessee, as the "James D. Todd United States Courthouse", and for other purposes.

S. 5060. An act to redesignate the Federal building located at 212 Third Avenue South in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as the "Paul D. Wellstone Federal Building", and for other purposes.

At 5:39 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 558. An act to establish a national integrated flood information system within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 789. An act to repeal certain obsolete laws relating to Indians.

S. 2607. An act to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the former hostages of the Iran Hostage Crisis of 1979-1981, highlighting their resilience throughout the unprecedented ordeal that they lived through and the national unity it produced, marking 4 decades since their 444 days in captivity, and recognizing their sacrifice to the United States.

S. 5229. An act to direct the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library to remove the bust of Roger Brooke Taney in the Old Supreme Court Chamber of the Capitol and

to obtain a bust of Thurgood Marshall for installation in the Capitol or on the Capitol Grounds, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 7077) to require the United States Fire Administration to conduct on-site investigations of major fires, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 5244. A bill making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2023, extending various health programs, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5803. A communication from the Branch of Administrative Support Services, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Updating Entries for Two Species on and Removing Johnson's Seagrass From the Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants Wildlife and Plants" (RIN1018-BG87) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 2, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5804. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances (21-1.5e)" ((RIN2070-AB27) (FRL No. 8582-01-OCSPP)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 2, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5805. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Addition of Certain Chemicals; Community Right-to-Know Toxic Chemical Release Reporting" ((RIN2070-AK26) (FRL No. 5927-02-OCSPP)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 2, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5806. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Renewable Fuel Standard Program: Canola Oil Pathways to Renewable Diesel, Jet Fuel, Naphtha, Liquefied Petroleum Gas, and Heating Oil" ((RIN2060-AV55) (FRL No. 9075-02-OAR)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 2, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5807. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "NPDES Small MS4 Urbanized Area Clarification" ((RIN2040-AG27) (FRL No.